Port of Seattle

Fly Quiet Awards

The Port of Seattle recognized three airlines with its annual Fly Quiet Awards. The awards honor airlines for their efforts in noise reduction and abatement programs at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport for the year 2016.

PRESS RELEASE
Read more about the program.

Congratulations to....

Fly Quiet Bravo Award – Southwest Airlines

Awarded to the quietest airline among the top five carriers at Sea-Tac.

Southwest operates a modern fleet of Boeing 737 aircraft. This is their 1st Fly Quiet Award. Southwest maintains a busy daily schedule while operating with noise levels consistently lower than competing airlines and doing a remarkable job at flying the noise abatement procedures correctly.

Fly Quiet Award – Virgin America

Awarded to the quietest airline with at least 1,000 annual jet operations at Sea-Tac.

Virgin America operates a modern fleet of quiet Airbus A320 aircraft. This is 6th time Virgin has received a Fly Quiet Award.

Virgin continues to be recognized due to their combination of quiet operations and strong adherence to flight procedures and abatement measures.

Fly Quiet Regional Airline Award – Jazz Aviation

Awarded to the quietest regional airline with at least 360 annual jet operations at Sea-Tac.

Jazz Aviation operates the quiet Canadair Regional Jet (CRJ). This is their 7th award overall, which is the most of any airline since the Fly Quiet Awards began in 2005.

Jazz Aviation's successful track record is due in part to operating a fleet of quiet and modern regional jets that adhere to strict noise abatement efforts and near flawless flight procedures.

Additional Information on Fly Quiet Awards

The Fly Quiet Awards were established in 2005 by port staff and a citizen advisory committee to recognize airlines working to reduce the impacts of jet noise in the community.

The Fly Quiet Award criterion consists of three categories:

- Percentage of compliance with Sea-Tac's Noise Abatement flight procedures/flight paths
- Overall noise levels of the airline's operations (utilizing four of the Port's 24 permanent noise monitors)
- Compliance with Sea-Tac's engine maintenance/testing procedures and run-up restrictions

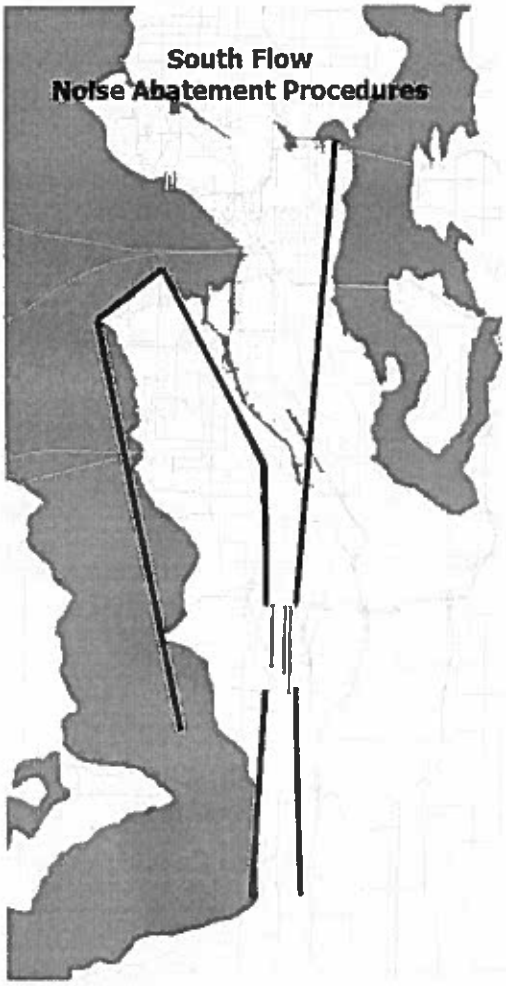
Port of Seattle

Sea-Tac Airport Noise Abatement Procedures for Jets

Noise abatement flight procedures for jet aircraft are specific flight headings and altitudes designed to minimize noise over surrounding communities. The FAA, in cooperation with the Port and local communities, established the procedures to take advantage of existing geographical and compatible land use conditions wherever possible.

Although the FAA has sole authority over aircraft in flight, the Port of Seattle has taken the lead responsibility for monitoring and reporting air traffic activities in regard to noise abatement procedures. This information is used to track trends and identify problem areas. The FAA can deviate from the noise abatement procedures for a variety of reasons, including weather, traffic safety and aircraft performance. Propeller aircraft, being smaller and slower, cannot fly within the noise abatement corridors with jet aircraft and are allowed to deviate from the noise abatement flight procedures.

Whether an aircraft departs to the north (north flow) or the south (south flow) depends on wind conditions. Aircraft depart heading into the wind. In the Puget Sound region, winds tend to flow out of the south during cloudy, overcast days necessitating departures to the south. During clear weather, winds tend to flow out of the north, necessitating departures to the north.



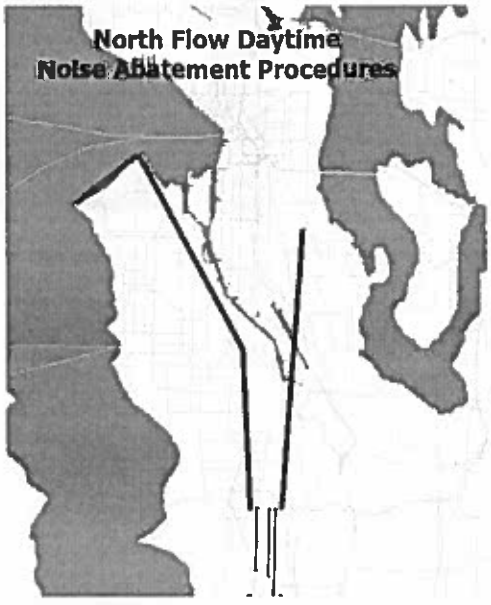
SOUTH FLOW – 24 HOURS A DAY

SOUTH FLOW ARRIVALS CORRIDOR (RED)

Arriving jet aircraft from the west fly north of West Seattle and south to Sea-Tac, preferably over Elliott Bay. From the east, arriving jet aircraft stay north of the 520 Bridge and then turn south to Sea-Tac.

SOUTH FLOW DEPARTURES CORRIDOR (GREEN)

Departing jet aircraft are confined to a narrow corridor and can initiate a turn once they reach 5 nautical miles and at least 3,000 feet in altitude.



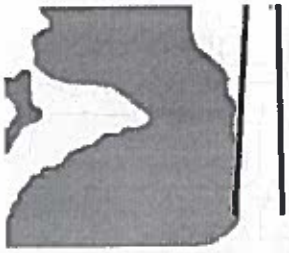
NORTH FLOW – DAY (6 AM TO 10 PM)

NORTH FLOW DEPARTURES CORRIDOR (GREEN)

Departing jet aircraft are confined to a narrow corridor and can turn east once they reach 8 nautical miles and at least 4,000 feet in altitude. Jet aircraft turning to the west must continue north over the Duwamish industrial area before initiating their turns.

NORTH FLOW ARRIVALS CORRIDOR (RED)

Arriving jet aircraft execute final turns before entering the narrow 5 nautical mile corridor extending from the runways.



NORTH FLOW – NIGHT (10 PM TO 6 AM)

NORTH FLOW DEPARTURES CORRIDOR (GREEN)

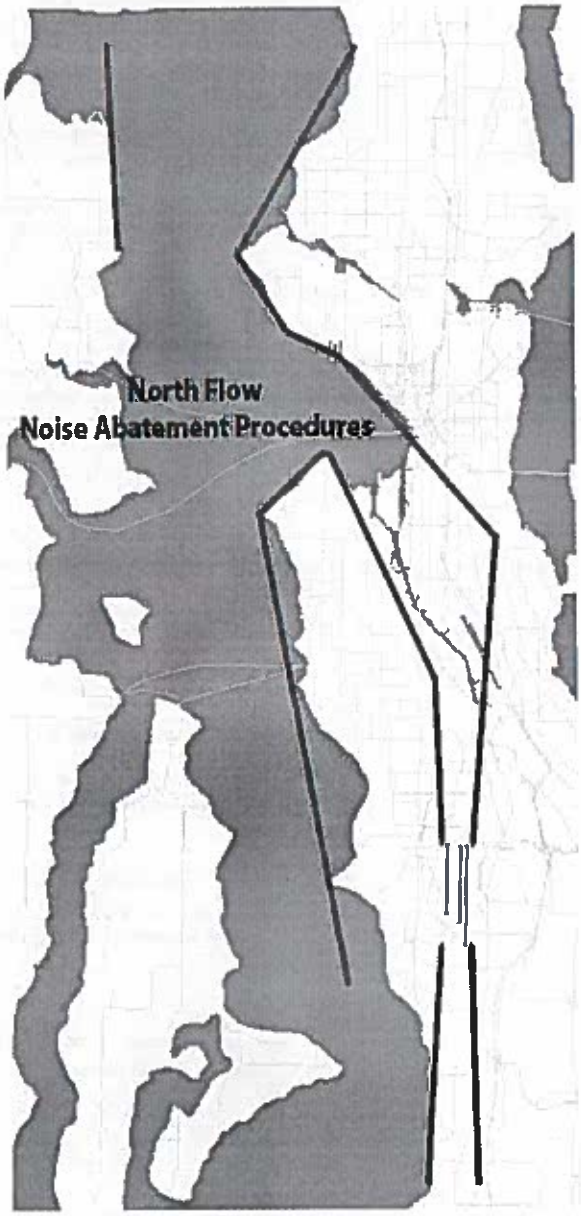
Departing jet aircraft are confined to a narrow corridor and should not turn to the east. Instead, all aircraft turn to the west and continue north over the Duwamish Industrial area and Elliot Bay before initiating their turn.

North Flow Departures – Puget Sound South Procedure (Black) Once through the North Flow Departures Corridor, jet aircraft heading south can turn east upon crossing the 223 compass radial and reaching at least 10,000 feet above sea level.

North Flow Departures – Puget Sound North Procedure (Black) Once through the North Flow Departures Corridor, jet aircraft heading north can turn east upon crossing the 323 compass radial or reaching at least 10,000 feet above sea level.

NORTH FLOW ARRIVALS CORRIDOR (RED)

Arriving jet aircraft execute final turns before entering the narrow 5 nautical mile corridor extending from the runways.



Port of Seattle

Aircraft Engine Maintenance Run-ups

NOISE INFO LINE

(206) 787- 5393
1-800-826-1147

One of the concerns of residents living near Sea-Tac Airport is noise caused by engine maintenance run-ups. An engine run-up is necessary after certain types of maintenance procedures are performed on an aircraft. To conduct these procedures, the aircraft will be taxied to one of four locations designated for run-ups on the airfield. There are two locations on the north end of the airfield and two locations on the south end. Once there, the aircraft will park and the engine will be brought up to a higher power setting to test for proper performance. At all times, the aircraft is positioned to assure that the jet-blast from the back of the engine is directed across the airfield, rather than toward an adjacent community.

The Port of Seattle has established a period that restricts engine run-ups from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. If absolutely necessary, run-ups may be conducted during these hours with the airport's permission and may not exceed two minutes in duration. Aircraft operators may conduct longer run-ups from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. only if the aircraft is scheduled for a flight that departs between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and has the airport's permission. Violations to these time restrictions will result in the following tariffs being applied to the aircraft operator:

- First offense – Letter of Admonishment
- Second offense in a calendar year - $1,000
- Third offense within a calendar year from the first offense - $2,000
- Maximum fine within a calendar year from first offense - $8,000

View the Port of Seattle Rules, Regulations, and Tariffs relating to engine run-ups.

Port of Seattle

Sound Insulation

Sound insulation packages offered by the port are designed to reduce aircraft noise that people hear in their homes and in the classroom. About 10,000 single-family homes were eligible for insulation when the program began in 1985. Today, approximately 98% of the eligible homes have been completed. Based upon insulation questionnaires received from homeowners, 96% of homes insulated through the port experienced noticeable differences in interior noise levels. The Port of Seattle also has committed to assist with sound insulation and related improvements at Highline Community College and at the Highline School District.

SOUND INSULATION:

- More than 9,400 single family homes completed– first begun in 1985, this program is nearing its conclusion.
- Six condominium complexes completed, for a total of 236 units.

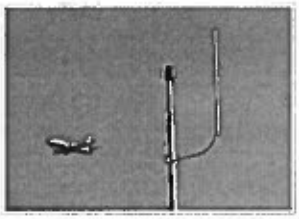
- Highline School District – 7 of 15 schools identified to receive funds are complete
- Highline Community College – 14 college buildings are complete
- Additionally – insulated three private schools, two churches and one convalescent center

PROPERTY ACQUISITION & RELOCATION:

- Acquired 1,400 single-family home parcels and relocated the residents, including 388 for third runway construction
- Acquired and relocated the residents at five mobile home parks with an approximate total of 359 units

Port of Seattle

Aircraft Monitoring System



The Port of Seattle has a flight track monitoring system and operates 24 permanent noise monitors. This system enables the port to regularly monitor airline compliance with noise abatement procedures and investigate citizen inquiries.

PUBLICVUE FLIGHT TRACKING TOOL

View local area flight tracking and noise information

PublicVue enables the public to watch the time-delayed movement of aircraft operating at Sea-Tac Airport as well as at other local airports. If you are a first-time user of this system, click on the help link below to assist with understanding and utilizing the full capabilities of this software.

Download **Instructions** for PublicVue (PDF).

Launch PublicVue here

Noise monitor locations

* numbers are not sequential

1. Air Cargo 4, SeaTac

3. Maple Leaf Reservoir, Seattle

4. Catherine Blaine School 2550 34th Ave West, Seattle

5. Medina Elementary, 8001 NE 8th St, Medina

6. Hamilton Viewpoint Park, 1531 California Way SW, Seattle

7. Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave S, Seattle

8. Mercer View Community Center, 8236 SE 24th St, Mercer Island

9. Beacon Hill Reservoir, Seattle

10. Brighton Playfield, 6000 39th Ave S, Seattle

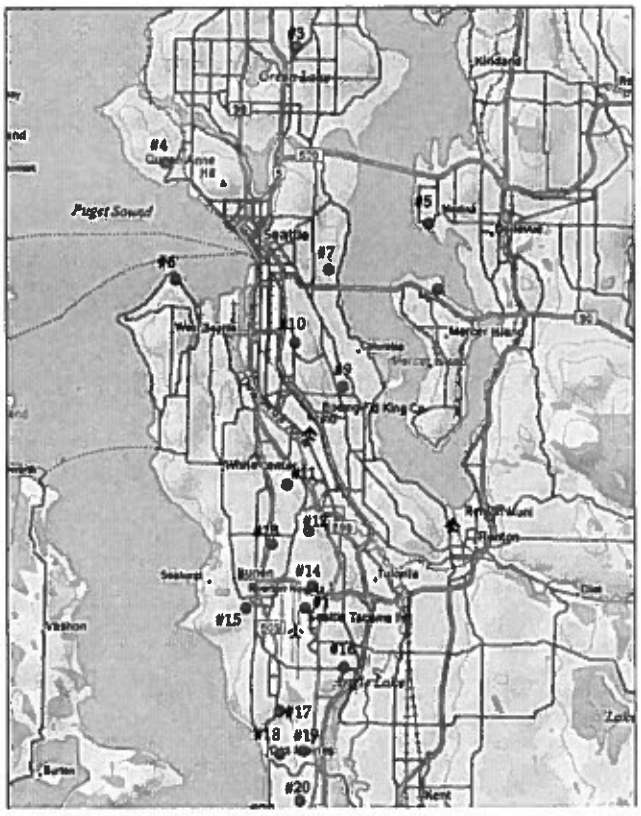
11. Beverly Park School, 1201 S 104th St, SeaTac

12. 2226 S 126th St, Burien

13. Cedarhurst Elementary, 611 S 132nd St, Burien

14. North Clear Zone, SeaTac

15. Sylvester Middle School, 16222 Sylvester Rd, Burien



16. Chinook Middle School, 18650 42nd Ave S, SeaTac

17. 1217 S 207th St, SeaTac

18. 1205 S 226th St, Des Moines

19. Midway Elementary, 22447 24th Ave S, Des Moines

20. Parkside Elementary, 2104 S 247th, Des Moines

21. Mark Twain Elementary, 2450 Star Lake Rd, Federal Way

22. Sacajawea Jr High, 1101 Dash Point Rd, Federal Way

23. Meredith Hills School, 5830 S 300th St, Auburn

25. Twin Lakes Elementary, 4400 42nd Pl SW, Federal Way

28. Woodmont Elementary, 28454 16th Ave S, Des Moines